(FGD) technology for its Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project (2x250 MW) in view of high Sulphur content in Assam Coal.

Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana

3131. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, along with the budgetary allocation;

(b) the number of rural areas electrified so far under the scheme, State-wise along with the assistance released;

(c) whether Karnataka Government has requested for assistance for implementation of the scheme in 9 more districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Government of India introduced "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" (RGGVY) in April, 2005 for the attainment of National Common Minimum Goal of providing access to electricity to all rural households over a period of four years.

The salient features of the RGGVY are as under:—

1. Scheme is for the attainment of National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing access to electricity to all rural households and electrification of all villages over a period of four years.
2. Creation of Rural ELectricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66.11 kV) sub-station in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.
3. Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all unelectrified villages/ habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.
4. Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from conventional sources for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).
5. REDB, VEI and DDG would also cater to the requirement of agriculture and other activities which would facilitate overall rural development, employment generation and poverty alleviation.

6. The scheme *interalia* provides for financing of eletrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

7. Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for projects.

8. In the management of rural distribution through franchisees who could be Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Users Association, Cooperatives or individual entrepreneurs, the Panchayat institutions would be associated. The franchisees arrangement could be for system beyond and including feeders from substation or from and including Distribution Transformers).

9. For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under the scheme, prior commitment of the States would also be obtained before sanction of projects under the scheme for:—

   - deployment of franchisees for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under the scheme, and
   - the provision of requisite revenue subsidies to the State utilities as required under the Electricity Act, 2003.

10. Services of CPSUs have been offered to the states for assisting them in the execution of rural electrification projects as per their willingness and requirement.

For the year 2005-06, Rs. 1100 crore was allocated and for the current year Rs. 3000 crore have been allocated.

(b) As per Report of Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Village Electrification Infrastructure has been created in 9819 villages during 2005-06 and a cumulative amount of Rs. 1512.06 crore so far has been disbursed under the Programme. State-wise details are given in the Statement. (See below)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Govenrment had sent 26 proposals to REC out of which 17 were approved at the cost of Rs. 375.39 crore. 9 projects were not sanctioned as the sanctioned limit of Rs. 5000 crore approved by Cabinet had been reached.

Statement

State-wise Achievement of Village Electrification and Disbursement of funds under RGGVY up to 31.03.2006

SI. No	State	Total villages Electrified (Nos.)	Total funds disbursed (Rs. Crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	1600	381.979
2.	Jharkhand	-	3.500
3.	Karnataka	47	72.590
4.	Chhattisgarh	-	6.500
5.	Orissa	-	3.500
6.	Rajasthan	230	56.529
7.	Uttar Pradesh	7503	812.602
8.	Uttaranchal	87	59.440
9.	West Bental	352	115.429
	TOTAL :	9819	1512.069

Identification of hydro power potential

†3132. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that installed capacity of nearly 50,000 megawatt hydro-electricity has been identified in the 16 States of the country in which initial feasibility reports of 162 hydro-electric projects have been prepared; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise and the time limit fixed to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Under 50,000 MW Hydro-electric Initiative Preliminary Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 162 hydro-electric projects spread over 16 States have been prepared. The State-wise and location-wise details of these projects are given in the Statement. *(See* below)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.